

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Albany NY
800 AM EDT Sat May 2 2015

...Severe Weather Awareness Week concludes today...

Today marks the end of Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Plan now to keep safe during severe weather. Before a storm, develop a severe weather safety plan at home, school, work, church and when outdoors. **Identify a safe place to take shelter.** Conduct frequent drills. Know where to receive the latest weather information. Know what action you will take when a warning is issued. **Be weather ready.**

NOAA Weather Radio offers one way to receive immediate relay of severe weather warnings. Many local television and radio stations also broadcast weather alerts. Computers and wireless devices can also receive warnings. **The Red Cross, many state emergency management agencies and private vendors have wireless applications that will alert you of severe weather by relaying National Weather Service warnings.**

During severe weather, postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent. Move to a sturdy building or car. If caught outdoors, find a low spot. Make sure your choice is not susceptible to flooding. If in the woods, take shelter under smaller trees. If you are boating or swimming, seek shelter on land immediately. **When the thunder roars, go indoors!**

If a tornado warning is issued, move to a pre designated place of safety, preferably a basement or interior room. Stay away from windows. Get as low to the ground as possible. Cover your head. If caught outdoors and a tornado threatens, lay flat in a ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of flying debris. Flying debris causes most fatalities and injuries during a tornado. Mobile homes offer little protection from a tornado. Evacuate your mobile home and move to your designated place of Safety.

Flash flooding can be deadly. Never underestimate the power of water. Half of all flash flood related deaths occur in Automobiles. Two feet of flowing water will cause most cars to Float. Flooding hazards are increased at night when visibility is reduced. The National Weather Service urges you to respect all barriers that warn of flooded roads. **Turn around, don't drown!**

The National Weather Service issues severe weather watches and warnings. A watch means that severe weather, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes or flash flooding is possible. A warning means that severe weather is imminent or occurring. You should know what to do if a warning is issued. When a warning, any severe weather warning, is issued, take immediate action to protect your life.

For more information on Severe Weather Awareness Week, go to our web site <http://www.weather.gov/aly>. Then select our severe weather awareness link.

Today concludes severe weather awareness week.